

REMARKS

By this Amendment, the numbering of the claims is changed and claims 14-20 are newly added. No new matter is added. After entry of this Amendment, claims 1-20 will remain pending in the application. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the present patent application are respectfully requested.

In the Official Action, claims 10 and 12 were objected to. The Examiner indicated that the numbering of these claims is not consistent with the numbering of the first ten claims by not being consecutively numbered. In response, the numbering of original claim 10 and claim 12 is changed to claim 12 and 13, respectively. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claims 10 and 12 are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) based on Ortega *et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 5,865,646) (hereinafter "Ortega"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 is patentable over Ortega at least because this claim recites an electronic assembly comprising, *inter alia*, connectors connected to the wiring harness; and a molded body formed to encapsulate the wiring harness and provide access to the connectors. Ortega does not teach or suggest these features. Therefore, Ortega does not teach each and every feature recited by claim 1 and, as a result, cannot anticipate claim 1.

Ortega discloses a high speed, low impedance, shielded connector that receives a mating plug connector 60. (See FIGS. 8 and 10). Ortega further discloses that the mating connector 60 includes an overmold section 68 connected to a cable 70, a metallic shield 66 and an insulative nose 62. Ortega is, however, silent about connectors connected to a wiring harness or a molded body that encapsulates the wiring harness and provides access to the connectors. In Ortega, the overmold section 68 (identified as the "molded body 68") does not encapsulate the cable 70 (identified as the "wiring harness") because the overmold section 68 does not encase/enclose the cable 70. (See definition in Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary (10th Edition) of the word "encapsulate": "to enclose in or as if in a capsule") Rather, Ortega merely discloses that the overmold section 68 is connected to the cable 70. Furthermore, Ortega merely discloses a single connector 60 connected to the cable 70. Ortega is complete silent about connectors connected to a wiring harness. For at least these reasons, Ortega cannot anticipate claim 1.

Claims 2-13 are patentable over Ortega at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1 and for the additional features recited therein. For example, Ortega is silent about a

conductive coating on the outer surface of the molded body as recited in claim 3. Ortega merely discloses that the plug connector 60 includes a metallic shield section 66 that surrounds the connectors within the plug from the nose rearwardly toward the cable 70, and an overmold section 68 utilized primarily for gripping. (*See* col. 4, lines 10-15).

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) based on Ortega are respectfully requested.

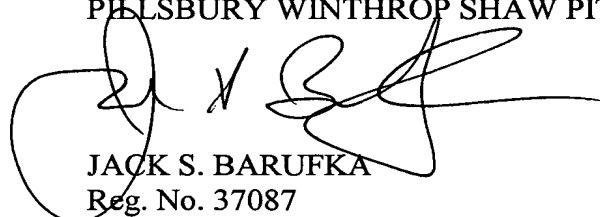
New claims 14-20 are newly added. New claims 14-20 define additional subject matter that is novel and non-obvious over the art of record. Support for new claims 14-20 may be found, for example, on pages 4-6 of the specification and in FIGS. 1-4. New claims 14-16 are patentable over Ortega at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1 and for the additional features recited therein. Claims 17-20 are patentable over Ortega for at least similar reasons as provided in claim 1, and for the additional features recited therein. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that new claims 14-20 are in condition for allowance.

Applicants have addressed the Examiner's rejection and objection and respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If any point remains in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. S. Barufka', is written over the printed name and contact information.

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